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Joint Inspection Unit

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2010

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The present note was prepared pursuant to paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 64/262, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), to expedite the implementation of that resolution, "including through the expected provision of support to the Unit by the secretariats of the participating organizations for the preparation of its reports, notes and confidential letters, and the consideration of and action on the recommendations of the Unit in the light of pertinent resolutions of the Assembly, and to report to the Assembly on an annual basis on the results achieved".

2. In accordance with the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, and in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the Secretary-General provides substantive support to the Joint Inspection Unit during the preparation as well as after completion of their reports. In accordance with the mandate of the Unit, the secretariat of CEB circulates all reports of system-wide concern to United Nations system organizations and compiles the comments received. During this process, and as a matter of normal practice, the CEB secretariat requests organizations to respond within the deadline provided in order to produce reports within the mandated time frame.

3. During the 2010 period, the CEB secretariat prepared comments for seven Joint Inspection Unit reports, including several from the programme of work of the previous year. In each case, the CEB secretariat requested organizations to comment on the final version of the report, including the methodology used and the content of the recommendations. These comments, which are issued as United Nations documents under cover of a note by the Secretary-General, reflect the overall consensus of the United Nations system, although each organization may choose to address the specific recommendations within the framework of its governing bodies.

4. In addition to circulating and commenting on Joint Inspection Unit reports of system-wide concern, the CEB secretariat continues to work very closely with the Unit on the preparation of its annual programme of work. As has become common practice, in late 2010 the CEB secretariat assisted the Unit with the process of

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prioritizing and selecting topics of interest to organizations of the United Nations system for the Joint Inspection Unit 2011 programme of work, and provided substantive input regarding specific proposals.

5. Furthermore, the CEB secretariat continues to maintain a constant dialogue with the Joint Inspection Unit to ensure a smooth report preparation process and to identify methods for enhancing the value of the Unit's reports. One example of increased collaboration was the preparation of a Joint Inspection Unit report on the theme "Preparedness of United Nations system organizations for the International Public Sector Accounting Standards" (JIU/REP/2010/6), which was prepared in close coordination and consultation with the Finance and Budget Network of the High-level Committee on Management. This example is indicative of the regular participation of the networks of the High-level Committee on Management of CEB in the preparation of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.

6. In addition, in 2010 the CEB secretariat participated in the first meeting of focal points, organized by the Joint Inspection Unit in September 2010. In addition to providing a forum for the Unit to interact with stakeholders, the event provided an opportunity for the Chief Executives Board for Coordination to share the mechanisms for report production, and encourage participating agencies to respond to requests for comments.

7. As regards organizations' consideration of and action on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in the light of pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly, chapter I, section E of the annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2010 (A/65/34) contains detailed information about the actions taken by organizations of CEB in follow-up to recommendations of the Unit.

8. The Secretary-General will continue to pursue a closer working relationship with the Joint Inspection Unit and to encourage all organizations to respond in a timely manner and in a spirit of cooperation to requests of the Unit.